

Iowa CORE Curriculum



School Administrators of Iowa Conference
August 7, 2008

- **Overview of the Iowa Core Curriculum (ICC)**
- **Leadership for the ICC**
- **Questions & Answers**

Intent of the Core



- To ensure that all Iowa students engage in a rigorous and relevant curriculum
- To provide educators with a tool for assuring that essential subject matter is being taught
- What is your greatest hope?

What is the Iowa Core Curriculum?

- **Content Areas**

- K-12 Literacy, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and 21st Century Skills

- **Essential Concepts and Skills**

- Development Process
 - *Concept example: Understands and applies rate of change.*
 - *Skill example: Analyzes and evaluates the mathematical thinking and strategies of others.*
- Assures a strong foundation for every Iowa high school graduate



Benefits to Students

- **Focus on the big ideas**
- **Superficial to conceptual**
- **Enhances engagement**
- **Continuity of content**
- **Better use of instructional time**

Benefits to Educators

- **Confidence that content and pedagogy are research based**
- **Professional growth**
- **Positive learning culture**
- **Long term focus on core concepts and skills**
- **Assessments used to shape future instruction**

Benefits to the State

- Iowa values high expectations for all students and educators
- Extends the Iowa Core Standards to identify priorities
- Creates continuity across Iowa for students and educators
- Galvanizes educators and community members to take action toward a common goal and priorities

Leadership for the Core

- **Lead learner**
- **Professional development**
- **Sense of urgency**
- **Commitment and the public will**
- **Clear focus and plan of action**
- **Monitor and evaluate**
- **Relentless use of data**
- **Communicate**
- **Resources**

Characteristics of Core Instruction

- Evidence-based content
- Teaching for understanding
- Problem solving and inquiry
- Student-centered classrooms
- Deep knowledge
- Rigorous curriculum
- Applications beyond the classroom
- Assessment for learning
- Reflective teaching

Core Curriculum Timeline

- **July 1, 2010 – Implementation Plan for Grades 9-12**
- **July 1, 2012 – Full Implementation of the Plan for Grades 9-12**
- **July 1, 2012 – Implementation Plan for Grades K-8**
- **2014-2015 – Full Implementation of Plan for Grades K-8**

Leadership Development Series: Purposes

- **Knowledge of the Iowa Core Curriculum**
- **Design of the Plan**
- **Development of Leadership Capacity**

Leadership Development Series: Structures to Accomplish Work

- **Leadership Capacity**
- **Content Alignment**
- **Instruction and Assessment**
- **Monitoring and Evaluation**

More Information

<http://www.iowa.gov/educate/>

- FAQ
- Website
- School Leaders Update

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